

# EDUCATION



## **THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS UPWARD BOUND PROJECT**

The National Association of Veterans Upward Bound Project Personnel (NAVUBPP) is the professional association for Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) staff personnel. Veterans Upward Bound projects, supported by NAVUBPP are dedicated to fully developing the personal potential of all U.S. military Veterans just as NAVUBPP is dedicated to fully developing professional staff members who work with VUB's Veterans. VUB Staff and instructors assist Veterans by developing, improving, and extending educational access and opportunities to eligible Veterans through academic needs assessment, instruction, enrichment, and other academic support activities. Veterans Upward Bound projects are funded by the U. S. Department of Education and serve eligible Veterans across the nation.

Communication and cooperative effort with schools, communities, agencies and other organizations at the local, state, regional, and national level are among the other primary functions of NAVUBPP...which also seeks to improve services and educational opportunities for Veterans by serving as a forum for exchange of knowledge and ideas. NAVUBPP provides for continuing professional development of VUB staff members, and serves as a network of communication for information related to quality delivery of Veterans' services. NAVUBPP also encourages professional research and publication, as well as cooperative effort with other organizations committed to serving Veterans and addressing Veterans' issues.

46 Veterans Upward Bound projects are currently funded across the U.S., Puerto Rico and Guam. An annual conference with emphasis on professional development of individual members and VUB project staff is the Association's highlight activity each year.

### **Program Information for Veterans Upward Bound (VUB)**

Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) is a free U.S. Department of Education program designed to help eligible U.S. military Veterans refresh their academic skills so that they can successfully complete the postsecondary school of their choosing.

**Eligibility** - In order to be eligible for participation in a VUB program an individual must be a low-income and/or first-generation college (meaning that neither of your parents have a four-year college degree) student, having served at least 180 days of active federal service, and have a discharge that is OTHER than dishonorable.

Currently, there are 46 VUB programs nationwide and in Puerto Rico and Guam ready to serve Veterans. Here are some of the areas in which VUB programs can help you:

**Academics** - Mathematics, foreign language, composition, laboratory science, reading, literature, computer basics and instruction in other subjects as necessary for academic success in education beyond high school; Instruction designed to prepare Veterans participating in the project for careers in which persons from disadvantaged backgrounds are particularly underrepresented; Tutorial and study skills assistance.

**Other services** - Intensive basic skills development in those academic subjects required for successful completion of a high school equivalency program

and/or admission to postsecondary education programs; Short-term remedial or refresher classes for Veterans who are high school graduates but have delayed pursuing a postsecondary school education; Assistance with applications to the postsecondary school of choice; Assistance with applying for financial aid; Personal Counseling; Academic advice and assistance; Activities designed to acquaint Veterans participating in the project with the range of career options available to them; Assistance in securing Veterans services from other locally available resources; Exposure to cultural events, academic programs, and other educational activities not usually available to disadvantaged people.

There are a variety of Veterans Upward Bound programs around the country that serve U.S. military Veterans.

If you want to go back to school, but it's been a few years since you've been in a classroom setting, or if you could use a free refresher program, contact a VUB program near you. :

**University of Pennsylvania**

220 South 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 260

Philadelphia, PA 19104-6184

(215) 898-6892

Project Website: <http://vpul.upenn.edu/aap/vub/index.php>

**Davis and Elkins College VUB**

100 Campus Drive

Elkins, West Virginia 26241

(304) 637-1257

Project Website <http://www.Veteransupwardboundwv.com>

**Non NAVUBPP States:**

**Alaska**

**Connecticut**

**Delaware**

**District of Columbia**

**Georgia**

**Hawaii**

**Idaho**

**Iowa**

**Maine**

**Maryland**

**Mississippi**

**Missouri**

**New Hampshire**

**New Jersey**

**New Mexico**

**North Carolina**

**Oregon**

**Rhode Island**

**South Dakota**

**Vermont**

**Washington**

**Wyoming**

\*Above source directly from: <http://navub.org/programinformation/index.php>; 6/2009

## **BRIGHT FUTURES**

*Helping those in recovery access their educational and employment goals*

Bright Futures is a program designed for individuals who, in their mental health recovery journey, are seeking to pursue educational and employment goals.

### **Who can participate?**

The Bright Futures program is open to any resident of Chester County who is in mental health recovery. This includes people who participate in services offered by the Chester County Department of Mental Health/ Mental Retardation, as well as any person who has been diagnosed with a mental health issue. (Preference is given to those individuals who are involved in publicly funded MH services, and must meet certain financial criteria.)

### **What does it cost?**

There is no financial cost to participants for the classes or materials.

### **How does someone apply to Bright Futures?**

Please contact the Chester County Department of MH/MR at 610-344-6265.

### **What to expect?**

Bright Futures classes are scheduled for nine consecutive weeks, two days per week. Classes are from 9:00AM-12:00noon. If interested, please be prepared to commit to the class schedule and work. There will also be a class assistant available for additional support.

\*Source: Information on The Bright Futures program via Assistant Psychosocial Rehabilitation Coordinator Chester County Department of MH/MR; 6/2009

## **POWER**

### **The Partnership on Work Enrichment and Readiness is an innovative program at Montgomery County Community College for Consumers of Mental Health Services**

#### **What's this program all about?**

The Partnership on Work Enrichment and Readiness ~ **POWER** ~ is a program at Montgomery County Community College. In the spirit of the mental health recovery model, POWER will introduce consumers to college campus community life, develop vocational potential, and assist in exploring potential educational and career paths. The program and classes will be held at MCCC's Blue Bell campus. This is a 14-week program. Currently the student would attend class on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Upon successful completion of the program, students will earn one college credit.

#### **What will students in the program experience and do?**

Students will attend classes on a variety of subjects. With the assistance of POWER's Student Advisor, they will also design their own individualized career and educational plan. Students will be evaluated on their work and receive feedback from their instructors. The POWER Advisor will assist students in tracking their progress, modifying their educational and career plans, and troubleshooting any issues that might arise.

#### **What topics will be offered during the 14 week POWER program?**

Some of the topics will include (but are not limited to):

Career Self-Assessment ~~~ The College Experience ~~~ Job Search Skills

Effective Communication ~~~ Study Skills ~~~ Time Management

Balancing School, Work and Life ~~~ Interview Skills

#### **What will be the outcome at the end of the 14 weeks?**

In addition to the classes and education, students will have their own career and educational plan to help focus their future activities in regards to work and/or college. The classes also have the potential to provide a transition for interested students to go on to more credit coursework at community college or other educational venues. All students who successfully complete the course will receive one college credit and a certificate of completion.

#### **What is the cost for a student to participate in POWER?**

There is no cost to students. Montgomery County Office of Mental Health and some private foundations are generously providing grants to support the program. Transportation money is also available.

#### **I know someone who might be interested. How do they enroll?**

There is a brief application which should be completed and returned. Please contact **Lori Schreiber**, POWER's Community Liaison, at **215.641.6425** or [lschreib@mc3.edu](mailto:lschreib@mc3.edu) for more information.

\*Source: Partnership on Work Enrichment and Readiness Info via Coordinator, L. Schreiber 6/09